Methodology

SES measurement tools

Criteria for inclusion

- The core focus of the measurement tool is the assessment of social and emotional skills, rather than psychological factors or cognitive skills (which may include similar types of skills but are broader in scope).
- The tools have been developed for and/or tested in jurisdictions that are comparable (i.e. developed economies with high levels of education) to Canada.
- The tool has been rigorously tested for validity and reliability, has been evaluated in at least five peer-reviewed academic journals, and meets thresholds for validity and reliability as determined by experts in the cited fields of study.
- The tool is built for adolescents and/or adults (aged 16 or older) to capture those transitioning from K-12 education into post-secondary education or the workplace, as well as adults already in or seeking to participate in the labour market.

Selection methodology

We compiled a database of existing measurement tools and peer-reviewed evaluations by reviewing existing lists and taxonomies of social and emotional skills measurement tools prepared by leading Canadian and international academics and organizations, and by conducting a literature search on the Omni academic search tool using the following queries:

- social and emotional skills taxonomy
- social and emotional skills
- emotional intelligence
- MSCEIT
- EQ-i
- ESCI
- ECI
- psychometric tools comparison
- psychometric analysis
- psychometric validity
- psychometric measurement
- psychometric users

Using the criteria for inclusion, we then reviewed the measurement tools and associated peer-reviewed evaluations found through the taxonomy review and literature search. This review included 10 psychometric tools and 60 peer-reviewed journal articles focused on the validity and reliability of the psychometric tools.

Each psychometric tool had to demonstrate at least moderate validity in four of the six following areas used in psychometric research:

- **face:** whether the test/questions measure what they claim to
- **convergent:** the extent to which scores on one measure or part of the test are correlated with other measures that one would reasonably expect them to be correlated with
- **divergent:** the extent to which scores on a measure or questions are not correlated with measures or questions that are supposed to be conceptually distinct
- **construct:** the extent to which a measure or question captures a theory or concept, such as a specific skill
- **predictive:** the degree to which a score or test results accurately predict related measurements, such as test scores at a future time
- **concurrent:** the extent to which a test corresponds to an existing, previously validated measure

After this review, three measurement tools satisfied our inclusion criteria.

Inclusion of an assessment tool on this website should not be considered an endorsement of that test by The Conference Board of Canada or the Future Skills Centre.

SES applied studies

Criteria for inclusion

- The core focus of the applied study is social and emotional skills measurement and/or development.
- The study is based on a conceptual skills framework with explicitly defined social and emotional skills. That framework is used as the foundation for SES measurement and/or the development of an intervention program.
- The tools have been developed for and/or tested in comparable jurisdictions to Canada.
- The frameworks, measurement tools, and/or interventions are built for adolescents and/or adults (aged 16 or older) to capture those transitioning out of K-12 education and into post-secondary education or the workplace, as well as adults already in or seeking to participate in the labour market.

Selection methodology

We compiled a database of existing applied studies. This was achieved by reviewing existing lists of social and emotional studies prepared by leading Canadian and international academics and organizations, and by conducting a literature search on the Omni academic search tool using the following queries:

- social and emotional skills studies
- social and emotional skills
- social and emotional skills international studies
- social and emotional skills competency frameworks

Using the criteria for inclusion, we then reviewed the 30 applied studies found through the study review and literature search. Four of the studies satisfied our inclusion criteria.

Following our initial review, we conducted a second search for studies produced by the lead organizations or peer organizations/researchers on study details and assessments of validity and impact. We conducted a literature search on the Omni academic search tool using the following queries:

- World Bank's STEP Skills Measurement Program
- Foundations for Young Adult Success
- social and emotional skills OECD

We reviewed 10 relevant articles.

Inclusion of an applied study on this website should not be considered an endorsement of that study by The Conference Board of Canada or the Future Skills Centre.

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